- Academic staff colleges established for re-orientation of newly appointed university and college teachers.
- 27 Curriculum Development Centres in Sciences and Humanities established to modernise curricula. Model curricula has been prepared for 27 disciplines in under-graduate and post-graduate courses.
- Financial assistance provided by UGC for improvement of teaching and research under Special Assistance Programmes.
- Inter-University Centres established by UGC to provide front-line facilities and services for advancement of research in the university system.
- Higher priority given to grant of autonomy to selected colleges.
- Guidelines for implementation of and Academic Calender circulated. These guidelines emphasize observance of at least 180 teaching days by universities/ colleges.
- Regulations for minimum standards for the award of first degree, minimum working days etc. notified by UGC.

[Translation]

Navodaya Vidyalaya in Ghatampur

2248. SHRIMATI KAMAL RANI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to set up Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya at Ghatampur in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (c) A proposal for opening of Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya at Village Jaghagirabad, Tehsil Ghatampur alongwith some other alternative sites, in District Kanpur Dehat was received from the State Government of Uttar Pradesh. This proposal is however not as per norms of the Samiti in respect of temporary accommodation. State Government has been reguested to send a suitable proposal fulfilling Samiti's requirements.

[English]

Indians in the Jails of Gulf Countries

2249. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that large number of Indians are languishing in various jails of Gulf countries; and

(b) if so, the number of such Indians Country-wise?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) and (b) Government are aware that a number of Indian nationals are in jail in Gulf countries. According to our records, as on 30.11.1996 the country-wise break up of Indians in jails in Gulf countries is as follows :

1.	Bahrain	82
2.	Iraq	3
3.	Kuwait	135
4.	Oman	38
5.	Qatar	383
6.	Saudi Arabia	1169
7.	U A E	144
8.	Yemen	3

[Translation]

Conference on Reservation in Delhi University

2250. SHRI RAMASHRAYA PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any conference on reservation in Delhi University organised in December, 1996 or January, 1997; and

(b) the decisions taken in the said conference and the outlines of their implementaion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Project on Construction Engineering

2251. SHRI SHANTILAL PARSOTAMDAS PATEL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Central Soil and Materials Research Station, Delhi has awarded a project on Construction Engineering to Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi;